

HOUSE RESOLUTION 75

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Casey Gill Summar for her meritorious service to the Volunteer Lawyers and Professionals for the Arts program.

WHEREAS, this legislative body takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those dedicated professionals who understand the importance of the arts to their communities and work with purpose and commitment to sustain local artists and arts organizations; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary individual is Casey Gill Summar, who co-founded Tennessee Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (TVLA) in 2006 and has since built the organization into an effective advocate for artists and arts nonprofit groups in the Nashville community; and

WHEREAS, she served astutely as TVLA's executive director until it merged with the Arts and Business Council of Greater Nashville in 2009; she now serves as executive director of the Arts and Business Council, in which capacity she continues to oversee the program, now known as Volunteer Lawyers and Professionals for the Arts (VLPA); and

WHEREAS, under Casey Summar's guidance, VLPA has grown to include a robust education program that teaches artists to view the world through an entrepreneurial lens and has fused thousands of connections between the arts and businesses, positioning professionals to serve as board members, volunteers, mentors, and more; and

WHEREAS, a devoted servant of her profession and community, Casey Summar is the chair-elect of the Nashville Arts Coalition, immediate past chair for two terms and executive council member of the Tennessee Bar Association's Entertainment and Sports Law Section, vice chair of the American Bar Association Entertainment and Sports Industries Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts Section, secretary and founding board member of the Edgehill Village Neighborhood Association, board member of the Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services, and

member of the Pro Bono Advisory Committee of the Tennessee Supreme Court's Access to Justice Commission; and

WHEREAS, she was named among Nashville's Top 40 Under 40 community leaders by the *Nashville Business Journal* in 2015 and was a member of the Leadership Music 2015 class; and

WHEREAS, Casey Summar holds a J.D. from Vanderbilt University and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography from Belmont University; and

WHEREAS, she previously clerked with the Georgia Lawyers for the Arts and various entertainment law firms in Nashville and now teaches at Vanderbilt University Law School as an adjunct professor; and

WHEREAS, after ten years of devoted service to VLPA, Casey Summar is leaving the Arts and Business Council to relocate to California with her husband, Trent; however, she will return "home" to Nashville frequently to continue her teaching and consulting careers; and

WHEREAS, Casey Gill Summar has distinguished herself as an attorney and arts advocate of rare ability, and she should be recognized for her groundbreaking work in the Nashville arts community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend Casey Gill Summar for her meritorious service to the Volunteer Lawyers and Professionals for the Arts program and the Arts and Business Council of Greater Nashville, salute her ongoing commitment to community support for the arts, and wish her all the best as she pursues new adventures in California.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.